



Foreign Agricultural Service

**GAIN Report**

Global Agriculture Information Network

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GAIN Report #SP2030

## Spain

### Livestock and Products

### MPA Contamination in Spain

**2002**

Approved by:

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#### **Report Highlights:**

**According to the Spanish Ministry of Agriculture no shipment of mixed feed for domestic animals, contaminated with Medroxyprogesterone-acetate (MPA) has been reported in Spain. Feeder pigs imported from Holland and suspected to be contaminated with MPA have been removed from the food chain pending testing. The impact of this new food scandal in both pork production and consumption has been minimal.**

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Includes PSD changes: No

Includes Trade Matrix: No

Unscheduled Report

Madrid [SP1], SP

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**Executive Summary**

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According Spanish Authorities, a 4,823 kilogram shipment of pet food contaminated with MPA has been detected. The shipment of pet food was imported to be used in several zoos located in Madrid, Santander, Canary Islands and Malaga. The same sources indicated that no shipments of mixed feed contaminated with MPA to be used in the livestock or the poultry industry have been reported in Spain.

According to Spanish Health Authorities, the number of pigs imported from Holland and suspected to be contaminated with MPA total 9,929 pigs of which 2,625 pigs were imported for slaughtering and the balance for feeding and breeding. The animals have been identified and are confined in destination farms in the provinces of Lerida, Gerona and Vizcaya. All these animals are being tested for MPA. Positive animals will be destroyed.

In the Rioja a shipment of 209 fresh hams from animals imported from Holland and slaughtered in Vizcaya are being tested for MPA.

As a result of the MPA scandal, imports of live animals during the last two weeks have declined. However, Spanish importers expect to return to normal levels in a few weeks. Due to this drop in the trade of live animals, prices for feeding animals have increased in the domestic market. During the period January-March of CY 2002, Spain imported 444,912 pigs, of which 338,812 were imported from Holland, mainly for feeding purposes.

The Spanish press did not cover this new food scandal heavily. Few reports have been published. Consequently, the impact of this new scandal on domestic consumption of pork have been minimal.